

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 EA-07 NEA-10

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00 SSO-00

USIE-00 INRE-00 ACDA-07 DHA-02 /113 W

-----081729 110022Z /64

O R 102343Z AUG 77

FM USMISSION USUN NY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4829

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PARAMARIBO

AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL CAPETOWN

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 2555

PARAMARIBO FOR AMBASSADOR YOUNG

DEPT PASS SECRETARY VANCE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PORG,US, UN, SF, WA

SUBJ: NAMIBIA: THIRD DAY OF WESTERN FIVE TALKS WITH SWAPO:

MORNING SESSION

USUN 2545

SUMMARY. AUGUST 10 MORNING SESSION OF WESTERN FIVE TALKS
WITH SWAPO WAS LARGELY DEVOTED TO NAMIBIAN PRISONER ISSUE

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AND POSSIBLE TIMETABLE FOR TRANSITIONAL PERIOD, INCLUDING
INTRODUCTION OF UN PRESENCE, WITHDRAWAL OF SOUTH AFRICAN
TROOPS AND POLITICAL STEPS LEADING TO INDEPENDENCE. ON
PRISONERS, SWAPO PRESIDENT SAM NUJOMA REITERATED THAT
AN INDEPENDENT PANEL OF JURISTS WAS UNACCEPTABLE (REFTEL).
SWAPO WANTED ANY QUESTION OF PRISONER STATUS TO BE
DECIDED BY THE UNITED NATIONS SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE,

WITH NO INSTITUTIONAL SOUTH AFRICAN PARTICIPATION. SWAPO DID NOT HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO MAKE SUBSTANTIVE COMMENTS ON THE TRANSITIONAL TIMETABLE; THEY MAY BE READY TO DO SO AT THE AFTERNOON SESSION. ON QUESTION OF SOUTH AFRICA'S ADMINISTRATIVE ROLE DURING THE TRANSITIONAL PERIOD, NUJOMA REITERATED HIS TENTATIVE ACCEPTANCE OF A SOUTH AFRICAN ADMINISTRATOR-GENERAL (REFTTEL), SUBJECT TO THE EFFECTIVE SUPERVISION AND CONTROL OF THE SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE. END SUMMARY.

1. NUJOMA SAID THAT QUESTIONS RELATING TO STATUS OF NAMIBIAN POLITICAL PRISONERS/DETAINEES WERE PART AND PARCEL OF THE OVERALL POLITICAL PROBLEM AND, THEREFORE, COULD NOT BE TREATED SEPARATELY BY AN INDEPENDENT PANEL OF JURISTS. SUCH QUESTIONS SHOULD BE DECIDED BY A LEGAL DEPARTMENT IN THE OFFICE OF THE SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE. MOREOVER, SWAPO COULD NOT ACCEPT INSTITUTIONAL INVOLVEMENT OF SOUTH AFRICAN NATIONALS IN DECISIONS ON PRISONERS' STATUS. SOUTH AFRICANS WERE THE "ENEMY" AND, BY DEFINITION, PARTIAL. SOUTH AFRICAN AUTHORITIES MIGHT BE ASKED TO COOPERATE BY FURNISHING INFORMATION ABOUT PRISONERS, BUT ONLY ON AN AD HOC BASIS.

2. TO ASSIST SWAPO IN CONCEPTUALIZING A TRANSITIONAL SCENARIO, AND TO EMPHASIZE THE VARIOUS CONTROLS OVER SOUTH AFRICAN MILITARY ACTIVITY ENVISAGED BY
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THE WESTERN FIVE, THE LATTER AGREED ON AUGUST 9 TO DRAW UP AN ILLUSTRATIVE AND STRICTLY UNOFFICIAL TIMETABLE OF STEPS TO BE TAKEN DURING THE TRANSITIONAL PERIOD, INCLUDING THE INTRODUCTION OF A UN PRESENCE, WITHDRAWAL OF SOUTH AFRICAN TROOPS AND THE POLITICAL PROCESS LEADING TO INDEPENDENCE (SEPTTEL). WE PRODUCED SUCH A TIMETABLE OVERNIGHT AND PRESENTED IT BY OVERHEAD PROJECTOR. NO PAPER WAS GIVEN TO SWAPO. LATER HAD MANY QUESTIONS ABOUT DETAILS BUT THEIR INTEREST CENTERED MAINLY ON THE EFFECTIVENESS OF A POSSIBLE UN PEACE-KEEPING FORCE. NUJOMA AND OTHER SWAPO DELEGATION MEMBERS REPEATEDLY EMPHASIZED THEIR VIEW THAT A SIZE-ABLE ARMED UN FORCE WAS NECESSARY. THEY ALSO STRESSED THAT THE SOUTH AFRICAN POLICE FORCE IN NAMIBIA WAS ARMED AND TRAINED FOR QUASI-MILITARY FUNCTIONS AND MUST, THEREFORE, BE SUBJECT TO THE SAME EFFECTIVE UN SUPERVISION AS SOUTH AFRICAN TROOPS. WITH THE CONCURRENCE OF THE OTHER WESTERN PRINCIPLES, AMBASSADOR MCHENRY SAID THE WESTERN FIVE WOULD GIVE FURTHER CONSIDERATION TO THIS POINT. SWAPO IS EXPECTED TO HAVE MORE TO SAY ABOUT THE TRANSITIONAL TIMETABLE DURING THE AFTERNOON SESSION.

3. IN ADDITION TO THE MAIN POINTS ABOVE, NUJOMA ALSO REITERATED SWAPO'S UNHAPPINESS ABOUT SOUTH AFRICA'S CONTINUED SUPPORT OF TURNHALLE ELEMENTS IN NAMIBIA, ESPECIALLY THE HELP GIVEN TO DIRK MUDGE AND OTHERS IN THEIR DE FACTO ELECTIONEERING.

4. LASTLY, WEST GERMAN AMBASSADOR VON VECHMAR SAID THE UN MUST START CONTINGENCY PLANNING SOON IN ORDER TO AVOID DELAYS IN IMPLEMENTING AN AGREEMENT, AND HE URGED NUJOMA TO TRY TO ENLIST SECRETARY GENERAL WALDHEIM'S SUPPORT FOR SUCH PLANNING.

LEONARD

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NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED TO SECRETARY.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
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Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
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